

COMMEMORATION OF APRIL 22, 2008
AS EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Equal Pay Day in order to address the need for equal pay for hardworking women across America. According to the United States Census Bureau, women are paid on average about 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man. For women of color, the gap is even wider. It is not acceptable that these wage gaps remain despite the passage of the Equal Pay Act more than 40 years ago in addition to a variety of related legislation prohibiting employment discrimination.

Equal Pay Day marks the time of the year in which the average median income paid to American women equals the earnings of males from the previous year. On this day various groups and organizations hold events across the Nation in order to highlight the detrimental effects of continuing inequity that are felt in the form of gender segregation in the work force, the undervaluation of the types of jobs held predominately by women, and gender discrimination built into the pay system.

In the State of Ohio, the median annual earnings of men with a college degree or more education is \$65,000. In contrast, the median annual earnings of women with a college degree or more is \$47,000, nearly \$20,000 less per year. This statistic in my home state of Ohio is alarming. It is even more disturbing to know that this is a trend that exists nationwide that is not just affecting women, but also their families and children who rely upon their wages for basic everyday needs such as health care or groceries. I am proud to say that I supported the passage of H.R. 2831, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and that I am a co-sponsor of H.R. 1338, the Paycheck Fairness Act, two of the key bills in the 110th Congress that will help to close the pay gap between men and women.

African-American women have a long history of working out of their homes and have the highest labor force participation rate among all women at 63.4 percent. However, many African-American women are concentrated in low paying service jobs. African-American women comprise 6 percent of the entire country's workforce, but make up 14 percent of workers earning between \$15,000 and \$30,000 per year and are less than 1 percent of workers earning over \$100,000 per year. Not only do African-American women earn less, the growth in their earnings has lagged behind that of white women, 19 percent and 29 percent respectively. At the upper end of the earnings distribution, disparities in the labor market impact approximately 1 percent of African-American women in corporate officer positions whose earnings are on average \$229,000 compared to \$250,000 for Caucasian women.

Over the last 60 years, the labor force participation of women has more than doubled, which means nearly one out every two workers is a woman. Not only are more women

working, but more of these working women are mothers as well. In 1963, when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law, full-time working women were paid 59 cents to every dollar received by men. Meanwhile, 45 years later in 2008, women are still only paid 77 cents for every dollar received by men. To state this more clearly, the wage gap has only narrowed by less than half of a penny per year.

According to the National Organization for Women, "If women received the same wages as men who work the same number of hours, have the same education and union status, are the same age, and live in the same region of the country, then these women's annual income would rise by \$4,000 and poverty rates would be cut in half. Working families would gain an astounding \$200 billion in family income annually."

I applaud my colleagues for passing H.R. 2831, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act last year. I now urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1338, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which seeks to eliminate the gender wage gap in our Nation. These two bills are a beginning towards an end to a societal ill that has hurt our country's hardworking families for too long. I look forward to continuing to work with the people of the 11th Congressional district of Ohio and across this country to address this long withstanding inequity in our Country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was ill and missed rollcall vote No. 205 through 207. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all votes.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL E.
DEBAKEY

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, Senate Majority Leader REID, Senate Republican Leader MCCONNELL, House Republican Leader BOEHNER, Senator HUTCHISON, the Honorable Dr. Michael Ellis DeBakey and Mrs. DeBakey:

Please allow me to thank Senator HUTCHISON for her leadership; Representatives BURGESS and CULBERSON for helping to acquire the 290 signatures needed to bring this bill to the floor; Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader REID, and the leadership for considering the legislation expeditiously; the President for signing it; and I especially want to thank God for the Honorable Dr. Michael E. DeBakey.

On September 7th his life will measure 100 years. However, the most meaningful measure of life is not how long one lives, but rather what one does with the time God gives. Dr.

DeBakey, your living has made it possible for others to have better lives.

You have promulgated over 1,600 publications and operated on over 60,000 patients. You have either established or helped establish: the field of stroke surgery; the coronary bypass; the mobile army surgical hospital; the National Library of Medicine; the multiple transplantation procedure; and health care systems around the world

You epitomize the truest measure of life. As Ruth Smeltzer proclaimed, "Some measure their lives by days and years, others by heart throbs, passion and tears; But the surest measure under the sun, is what in your lifetime for others you have done."

You have proven that one person can not only impact the world but that one person can change the world for the good of all. If we did not have a Congressional Gold Medal, we would have to create one just for you.

THANKING DALTON YANCEY FOR
OVER 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
AMERICAN AGRICULTURE AND
CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS
RECENT RETIREMENT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with both enthusiasm and heavy heart that I rise today to congratulate Mr. Dalton Yancey on his recent retirement from the Florida, Texas, and Hawaii Sugar Cane Growers.

For over 35 years, Dalton has represented and advocated on behalf of American agriculture. An expert in U.S. agriculture policy, Dalton has specialized in sugar, citrus and trade policy, ensuring that American growers and farmers are always given a level playing field on which to compete with foreign growers. He is the past President of the Commodity Club of Washington, DC, and the former Board Chair of the American Sugar Alliance. A true testament to his knowledge, Dalton has been appointed by three American Presidents to serve on the Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee for Sweeteners.

In addition to his professional duties, Dalton is extensively involved in many activities throughout his community. As an officer in the U.S. Army, Dalton served in Germany and Vietnam, receiving the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service. In 1969, he was a key member of Operation Holy Task Force, which brought Bob Hope to Southeast Asia.

Dalton has been active with the University of Florida Alumni Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the Florida State Society. I have seen Dalton in action with all of these organizations, as well as the Faith and Politics Institute since its inception 16 years ago. The two of us have been together at more prayer breakfasts and meetings organized by the Institute than I can even begin to count. As a member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Northern Virginia, Dalton and his wife of 33 years, Barbara—known by many of us as Barbie—are as committed to their church as they are to everything that they do.

Madam Speaker, I have had the privilege and honor of knowing Dalton throughout my career in the House of Representatives. It goes without saying that the people of Florida are losing a tremendous advocate with Dalton's retirement. He is not only an exceptional advocate on behalf of the people in my district, but a real friend to me.

I have often sought Dalton's advice and counsel not only on agricultural issues, but on so many other things that we consider here in the halls of Congress. He is, under every definition in the book, a true Southern gentleman. I thank Dalton for his service, wish him luck in this new and exciting chapter in his life, and implore him that he not stray too far from those of us who will miss him most.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID SANDIFER

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Chairman of the Brunswick County Commissioners, David Sandifer, of Holden Beach, North Carolina, for his commitment to his community and as a dedicated man of public service. Sandifer proved himself a devoted and effective public servant and a man of good character. He was also a devoted family man and dear friend. Sandifer passed away on April 4, 2008, and he will be dearly missed.

Sandifer, who had been a Brunswick County commissioner since 1996 and chairman since 1998, also served on the board of health, the criminal justice advisory board, the Communities in Schools advisory board, the board of directors of Hope Harbor Home, the Brunswick County Jail Population Management Committee, the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority, and many other committees. Driven by love for his community and its people, he was instrumental in implementing different programs and services throughout Brunswick County. He oversaw development projects in one of the fastest-growing communities in our Nation and helped it cope with growing pains along the way. In recognition of his devotion to public service, Sandifer was recently inducted into the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civilian honor. Sadly, he passed away just hours after this induction ceremony, as the result of complications brought about by cancer.

Madam Speaker, may we never forget the goodness, humility, service, and character that defined the life of David Sandifer. May God continue to bless his beloved wife, Pat, and all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I was not able to be present for three rollcall votes on Tuesday, April 22.

If I had been present I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 205, on passage of H. Res. 981—Recognizing March 6, 2008, as the first-ever World Glaucoma Day, established to increase awareness of glaucoma, which is the second leading cause of preventable blindness in the United States and worldwide, Representative BALDWIN—Energy and Commerce—I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 206, on passage of H.R. 5151—Wild Monongahela Act: A National Legacy for West Virginia's Special Places—I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 207, on passage of H.R. 831—Coffman Cove Administrative Site Conveyance Act—I would have voted "yea."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GLADY E. LAUGHLIN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gladly E. Laughlin, who passed away on February 23, 2008.

Gladly E. Laughlin played an integral role throughout the Laughlin, Nevada community where she was an outstanding civic leader and dedicated community advocate. Gladly was an educator with the Clark County School District for over twenty years, where she was a dedicated advocate for the children of Laughlin, expanding education programs and social services. Her efforts have inspired generations of students to achieve academic excellence. Among her many community achievements and honors, Gladly was most proud of her service to her community as the principal of the William G. Bennett Elementary School from 1993–2005.

Gladly was also a member on the Laughlin Town Advisory Board and served on the Board of Directors for the United Way of the Colorado River, the Laughlin Family Resource Center, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Colorado River. Gladly was also actively involved with the Laughlin Community Church. She volunteered with the church's choir, praise-worship teams, and served as a spiritual leader and mentor.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and legacy of Gladly E. Laughlin for her many years of leadership and community service to the Laughlin community. Those who have worked with her on a professional and personal level agree that Gladly has done profound work throughout the community. Gladly was a wonderful individual and a great force on behalf of the people of Laughlin. She is survived by her husband of over 40 years, Pat Laughlin and her two sons Rob and Jim Laughlin. She will be profoundly missed.

DEREK RIEMER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Derek Riemer who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Derek Riemer is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Derek Riemer is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Derek Riemer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING FARAH JOOMA

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Farah Jooma on achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award. Receiving the Gold Award is a testament to Miss Jooma's leadership, citizenship, and service to her community.

For her Gold Award project, Farah Jooma worked with Parkland Hospital and researched alternatives more medical insurance. She created a brochure that she distributed to healthcare clinics throughout the Dallas Fort-Worth area. She also held seminars discussing ways of trying to improve medical insurance.

The Girl Scouts of America promotes a positive influence for young women of today. I am honored to represent Farah Jooma in earning the highest award bestowed in Girl Scouts. I commend her commitment and dedication for the betterment of her life, her community, and her country.

ALFERD WILLIAMS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alferd Williams, of St. Joseph, Missouri. Mr. Williams, a sharecropper's son, who never got the chance to go to school, is now learning to read. Alferd is an inspiration to his teacher and classmates, and a prime example of someone setting their mind to accomplish a goal and then achieving success.